UNITED
NATIONS

S

Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1998/1154
11 December 1998

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 10 DECEMBER 1998 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF AUSTRIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

On behalf of the European Union, I should like to bring the following matter to your attention.

As you are aware, in paragraph 4 (b) of its resolution 1199 (1998) the Security Council demanded that the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia

> "enable effective and continuous international monitoring in Kosovo by the European Community Monitoring Mission and diplomatic missions accredited to the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, including access and complete freedom of movement of such monitors to, from and within Kosovo unimpeded by government authorities, and expeditious issuance of appropriate travel documents to international personnel contributing to the monitoring".

Unfortunately, the European has evidence of lack of compliance by the Yugoslav authorities with this obligation regarding the European Community Monitoring Mission:

The Head of Department for Multilateral Affairs and Economic Cooperation in the Foreign Ministry of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia on 4 November told the Head of the European Community Monitoring Mission presence in Belgrade:

> "The presence of the European Community Monitoring Mission in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia until now was tolerated for reasons of courtesy, but in the light of the Milosevic-Holbrooke agreement and the establishment of the Kosovo Verification Mission any further European Community Monitoring Mission presence is senseless. The Yugoslav Government does not intend to urge the European Community Monitoring Mission to leave the country, but will not issue any more visas for European Community Monitoring Mission monitors."

Similar information was given to the European Union Special Envoy when he had talks with Vice-Prime Ministers Sainovic and Lilic on 3 and 11 November, respectively, and on 23 November with the Chief of Cabinet of Foreign Minister Jovanovic.

Since then eight applications for Federal Republic of Yugoslavia visas for European Community Monitoring Mission monitors, including one for the Head of Mission, have been turned down by the authorities of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia.

In the light of the above-mentioned Yugoslav performance vis-à-vis the European Community Monitoring Mission, the European Union has decided to bring this obvious lack of compliance with the relevant parts of Security Council resolution 1199 (1998) to your attention.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of the present letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Ernst SUCHARIPA
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Austria
to the United Nations